

## Commanding Officer's Alcohol and Substance Abuse Policy Statement



The abuse of alcohol and the possession, use, distribution of illegal or prohibited mind altering substances negatively affects the individual health and safety of the Marine or Sailor, in addition to the effectiveness of 3d Intelligence Battalion, unit cohesion, good order and discipline and overall readiness.

Drug and alcohol use and abuse is a significant contributor to serious incidents and the death or injury to Marines and Sailors each year. Moreover, drug and alcohol abuse often leads to major health problems, criminal activity, destroys military careers and ultimately rips families apart.

The Marine Corps policy on illegal substance abuse and alcohol abuse is very clear: **ZERO TOLERANCE**.

All Marines, Sailors, and Civilians shall read and adhere to MCO 5300.17. This order is clear and governs the use and control of alcohol, illegal drugs, the illegal use of prescription drugs, and drug paraphernalia. "I didn't know" is not an excuse for violations of this order. All members of 3d Intelligence Battalion who violate this policy, abuse alcohol, drink while under-age, or test positive for illegal or banned drugs will be prosecuted under the UCMJ swiftly and effectively.

Engaged Leadership at all levels. Leaders will continually educate and enforce the Marine Corps' substance abuse and alcohol abuse policy. Further, leaders will highlight the detrimental effects of substance abuse, and the irresponsible or excessive consumption of alcohol. Substance abuse and alcohol abuse and misuse undermines the public perception of the Marine Corps, tarnishes the relationship with our Okinawan hosts, and erodes the legacy and reputation of Marines and Sailors.

Each and every one of 3d Intelligence Battalion is vital to this unit, your fellow Marines and Sailors and to your family. Ensure you are thinking clearly when you encounter situations where drugs and alcohol are present. Don't Abuse Alcohol; Don't Do Drugs; and always Do the Right Thing.

Any questions regarding this policy or MCO 5300.17 should be directed to the Battalion Substance Abuse Control Officer (SACO), GySgt Michael S. Bennett name at 623-7055 or Michael.s.bennett@usmc.mil, or use your chain of command.

Semper Fidelis

Sherif A. Aziz

Lieutenant Colonel, USMC